

Central Intelligence Agency

84-0061/10



Washington, D. C. 20505

10 MAY 1984

The Honorable Paul S. Sarbanes  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Sarbanes:

I appreciate the opportunity to respond to your letter of 11 April 1984 regarding an inquiry from one of your constituents. The latter raised several questions concerning the plans of this Agency to assume responsibility for its security protective program. There is the suggestion that this takeover might possibly be in violation of the National Security Act of 1947. It is implied by the letter writer that his eight years of experience as a Federal Protective Officer will have been wasted.

This is to advise that the level of protective support provided by the Federal Protective Service has suffered over the past few years because there has been a significant problem in recruiting high caliber personnel for assignment to the Central Intelligence Agency. As a result of the acute vacancy rate, this Agency explored other ways to provide adequate security protection in a cost-efficient manner. With the approval of the General Services Administration and the Office of Management and Budget, the Agency recently negotiated a transfer of responsibility and limited authority for handling the protection of certain CIA facilities. The Agency is currently in the process of hiring Security Protective Officers who will gradually replace GSA Federal Protective Officers over the next three years.

This matter has been carefully reviewed and it is the opinion here that there has been no violation of the National Security Act of 1947. It is important to note that Agency Security Protective Officers will have no powers of arrest or any protective responsibilities outside of the boundaries of specific Agency facilities.

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With regard to the expressed concern of this Federal Protective Officer that there will be the loss of eight years of security experience, it should also be understood that there will be no adverse impact upon this person's career as a Federal Protective Officer with the General Services Administration. The loyalty and dedication of Federal Protective Officers who have served the Agency well for many years is certainly appreciated. Some of these officers will likely apply for jobs with the Agency's new Security Protective Force and those that do will get serious consideration.

It is hoped that this response fully addresses the issues surfaced by your constituent.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

Harry E. Fitzwater  
Deputy Director  
for  
Administration

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